

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NEW DE 05615 141541 Z

46

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 IO-12 OMB-01

AID-20 SY-10 USSS-00 M-03 A-01 OPR-02 OC-06 SCA-01

SCS-03 EB-11 CCO-00 RSR-01 /163 W
----- 055788

O R 141412 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4348

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 5615

LONDON FOR LAMBRAKIS FOR AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, IN

SUBJ: FURTHER SHARMA ATTACKS ON US

1. SUMMARY. MOST PAPERS MAY 14 FEATURE BOTH A SPEECH BY CONGRESS PRESIDENT S. D. SHARMA AT JAUNPUR (NEAR BENARES IN UP) ATTACKING US AND ANOTHER BY AMBASSADOR T. N. KAUL CALLING FOR IMPROVED INDO- US RELATIONS. SHARMA REPORTEDLY ACCUSED US DIRECTLY OF WISHING TO TAKE " REVENGE" ON INDIA FOR THE FAILURE OF US POLICY DURING THE 1971 INDO- PAK WAR. THE PAK DEFEAT WAS A DEBACLE WHICH PRESIDENT NIXON COULD NOT TOLERATE, AND SHARMA, GOING FURTHER THAN EVER BEFORE, WARNED HIS AUDIENCE AGAINST THE " UGLY AND VICIOUS DESIGNS" OF THE US. SHARMA SAID US WAS INSTIGATING OPPOSITION PARTIES TO LAUNCH A CONSPIRACY AGAINST THE CONGRESS GOVERNMENT TO DISRUPT THE INTERNAL SECURITY OF INDIA AND " CREATE CHAOS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NEW DE 05615 141541 Z

AND CONFUSION BY VIOLENT MEANS." THE US, HE SAID, WANTED TO SHOW THE WORLD THAT INDIA WAS NOT SO STRONG AS IT APPEARED TO BE JANA SANGH LEADER VAJPAYEE DEMANDED MAY 14 THAT SHARMA " PROVE THIS MISCHIEVOUS AND UTTERLY FALSE CHARGE OR WITHDRAW IT FORTHWITH AND OFFER PUBLIC APOLOGIES TO OPPOSITION." I PLAN PROTEST TO MEA AS DETAILED THIS MESSAGE. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS UP CHIEF MINISTER TRIPATHI HAD COMPLAINED TO SHARMA PRIVATELY ABOUT PERIODIC VISITS TO LUCKNOW BY US DIPLOMATS AND THEIR MEETINGS WITH BKD AND JANA SANGH LEADERS. (COMMENT: TRIPATHI' S MISTAKEN.) THIS PROMPTED SHARMA' S OUTBURST. FOREIGN MINISTER SWARAN SINGH, IN A PRIVATE TALK TO NEWSMEN IS UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE REFUSED TO COMMENT ON THE SHARMA CHARGES ON THE GROUNDS THAT SHARMA IS NOT CONNECTED WITH THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

3. KAUL WAS QUOTED AS TELLING A LONDON AUDIENCE MAY 13 THAT THERE WAS NO BASIC CONFLICT OF INTERESTS BETWEEN THE US AND INDIA AND NO REASON THE TWO NATIONS COULD NOT IMPROVE RELATIONS. HE REPORTEDLY SAID THE PM BELIEVED THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY AND LIKELIHOOD OF IMPROVING RELATIONS.

4. COMMENT: I REQUESTED AT MID- MORNING MAY 14 AN URGENT APPOINTMENT WITH THE ACTING FOREIGN SECRETARY, AVTAR SINGH, TO REGISTER STRONG OBJECTION TO SHARMA' S REMARKS. SINGH HAS GIVEN ME AN APPOINTMENT FOR 11:00 MAY 15. I PLAN TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. SHARMA' S CHARGES ARE COMPLETELY FALSE. IF THE GOVERNMENT HAS ANY EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THEM, I WOULD APPRECIATE ITS BEING SUBMITTED FOR MY IMMEDIATE REVIEW.

B. THESE CHARGES ARE THE MOST DIRECT AND VICIOUS WHICH I HAVE SEEN REPORTED DURING MY SIX YEARS IN INDIA.

C. I KNOW THAT DR. SHARNEITS NOT A MEMBER OF THE CABINET OR GOVERNMENT. NONETHELESS, INDIA' S IS A PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM AND HE SPEAKS FOR THE PARTY IN POWER, WHICH IS THE GOVERNMENT. I AM NOT ABLE TO ACCEPT THESE CHARGES AS SIMPLE CAMPAIGN RHETORIC. I AM NOT ABLE TO ACCEPT ANY ARGUMENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 NEW DE 05615 141541 Z

WHICH SEEKS TO SEPARATE DR. SHARMA FROM THE GOVERNMENT.

D. INFLAMMATORY CHARGES (SUCH AS THOSE OF DR. SHARMA) EXCITE IN THE INDIAN MASSES A SUSPICION OF AMERICANS, WITH UNPREDICTABLE AND POSSIBLY VIOLENT RESULTS. I AM CONCERNED ABOUT THE SAFETY OF AMERICANS RESIDENT IN OR TRAVELLING THROUGH INDIA. FOLLOWING DR. SHARMA' S CHARGES, DOES THE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PERCEIVE DANGER TO AMERICANS?

E. SHOULD REPORT TO WASHINGTON THAT:

(I) THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DISAVOWS DR. SHARMA' S
CHARGES?

(II) THE MINISTRY HAS NO COMMENT? OR

(III) THE MINISTRY AGREES WITH DR. SHARMA?

F. IT IS PROBABLE THAT SECRETARY OF STATE ROGERS WILL ASK
AMBASSADOR- DESIGNATE KAUL FOR ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS I HAVE
RAISED. IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO THE SECRETARY TO HAVE SOME
ADVANCE INDICATION OF THE VIEWS OF THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS.

G. THE ALLEGATIONS MADE BY DR. SHARMA AND THE ATTITUDE
EXHIBITED BY HIM STAND OUT IN SHARP CONTRAST TO REPEATED
OFFICIAL PROFESSIONS OF DESIRE FOR IMPROVED INDO- AMERICAN
RELATIONS, SUCH AS KAUL' S LONDON STATEMENT.
ERNST

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973NEWDE05615
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730544/aaaajdyv.tel
Line Count: 139
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Aug-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <09-Jan-2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980211
Subject: FURTHER SHARMA ATTACKS ON US
TAGS: PFOR, IN
To: BOMBAY
CALCUTTA
LONDON
MADRAS
NEA
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005